

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Although Applicant traverses the election/restriction requirement for reasons set forth hereinafter, Applicant has amended the claims in response to the election/restriction requirement to elect Species I wherein the diffuser panel is made of polycarbonate. This election of Species I will result in the remaining claims being 16 - 21, 22, 23, 26 and 29. If the election/restriction is maintained, Applicant withdraws claims 24, 25 and 27 wherein the diffuser panel is made of glass.

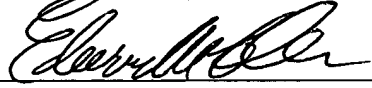
Claim 28 has been canceled as being redundant on claim 25. Other minor amendments to the claims have been made to comport with the specification and drawings such as in claim 18 and 19 wherein the cover is placed in front of the LCD organic display, not the diffuser panel as originally stated.

Applicant traverses the election/restriction requirement on the grounds that it is being required merely because it would be a change of materials of the diffuser panel, glass versus polycarbonate, not the structure or function of same. As discussed in the specification, page 3 - 7 lines 20 - 21, the purpose of the diffuser panel 3 is merely to soften the light and provide a uniform appearance, which may be accomplished using polycarbonate or glass. The only important requirement for the diffuser panel is that it be partially translucent, that is, allows light to pass through and at the same time spreads the light. Accordingly, the diffuser panel is functional and not necessarily material dependent. Thus, accordingly, Applicant does not believe an election/restriction should be required based on a polycarbonate versus glass material.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner re-consider the election/restriction requirement and examine all remaining amended claims in the same application. Whether or not the election/restriction is maintained, Applicant having elected Species I, this Application is now in position for examination.

Should the examiner have any questions or comments concerning this matter, a call to the undersigned attorneys of record is invited.

Respectfully submitted,  
David L. Gothard, Applicant

By:   
Edward M. Livingston, Esq.  
Reg. Pat. Atty. 28,523

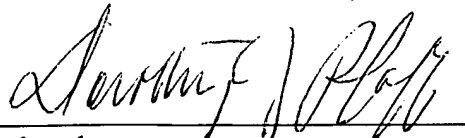
Angela M. Miller, Esq.  
Reg. Pat. Atty. 53,724

THE LIVINGSTON FIRM  
963 Trail Terrace Drive  
Naples, FL 34103  
(239) 262-8502

Attorneys for Applicant

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above Response and Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service by first class mail on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2006 addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

  
Paralegal